

COMMITTEE MINUTES for GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

Date: January 19, 2006

Place: Legislative Dining Room

Convened: 1/19/2006
10:00 AM

Recessed:

Reconvened:

Adjourned: 1/19/2006
11:50 AM

Present: Senators Courtney-CC, Lundby-CC, Connolly, Wieck
Representatives Alons-CH, Hutter-VC, Lensing-RM, Baudler, Eichhorn, Thomas, Whitead,
Winckler

Absent: None

Excused: Representative Van Fossen, J.K.

Senator Lundby convened the meeting. Roll call was taken and minutes of the previous meeting were approved as submitted.

Rob Marqusee, Director of the Department of Rural Economic Development for Woodbury County, discussed the Board of Regents Feasibility Study pursuant to House File 868. He responded to questions from members of the committee.

Mary Ellen Baker, Regent from Ottumwa, responded to the concerns expressed by Mr. Marqusee. She discussed the composition of the Task Force. Their study determined the unmet educational needs of the area rather than looking at the issue of economic development. Senator Lundby requested the Board of Regents respond to the points in Mr. Marqusee's report and bring that response to the oversight committee. Senator Wieck asked to be recorded as requesting the Board of regents to comply with the provisions of HF 868. Dr. David Holger, Chair of the task force, explained the process used in determine the report's results. He apologized for any misunderstanding of legislative intent. Senator Wieck requested copies of information sent to the Task Force by Representative Hoffman.

Representatives Alons made the following bill assignments: HF 829 - Alons, Ch., Baudler, Lensing; HF 846 - Eichhorn, Ch., Van Fossen, J.K., Winckler; HF 849 - Alons, Ch., Baudler, Whitead; HSB 508 Alons, Ch., Lensing, Van Fossen.

Senator Lundby asked the Senate members to review SF 329, SF 357, SF 398 and SF 406, as it is her intent to place these bills on indefinite postponement next week.

Regent Baker was then asked to review the Update on Taskforce Recommendations regarding the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School. Final recommendations have not been made, but will be later this spring and given to the Board of Regents, who will make the decision. She noted that the Code of Iowa requires two years notice if the institution is closed to allow time for transition of students. Ms. Baker responded to questions from the committee.

Senator Lundby requested members to review the committee's calendar and topic list for the year before the next meeting. Representative Baudler moved to rise at 11:50 AM.

Senator Mary Lundby

Judy Dierenfeld, Committee Secretary